

From: The Daily Wire daily@mailerdailywire.com
Subject: Disney's Snow White Actress Attacked Gina Carano 3 Years Ago. Carano Got Even This Week.
Date: August 19, 2023 at 5:11 AM
To: mwadeagr@gmail.com

TW

THE DAILY WIRE

Saturday, August 19, 2023

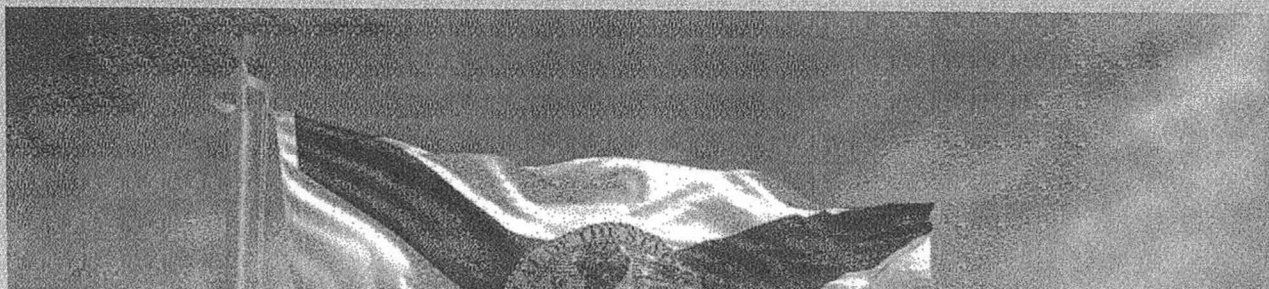
AD-FREE CONTENT FOR MEMBERS

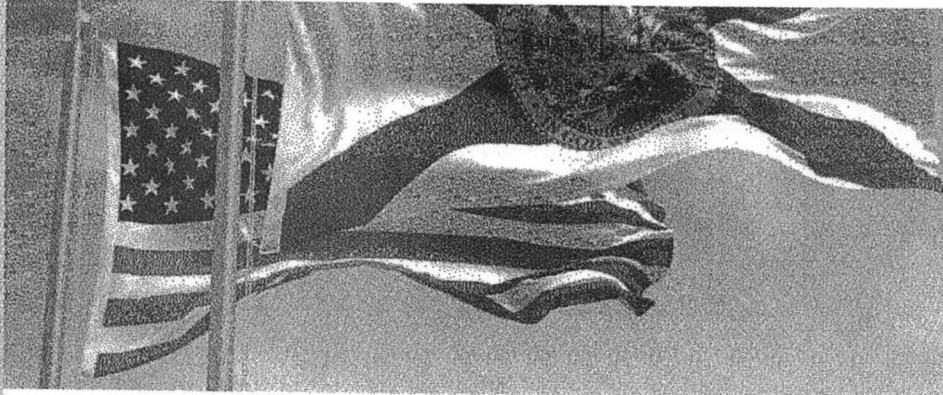


Disney's Snow White Actress Attacked Gina Carano 3 Years Ago. Carano Got Even This Week.

By Hank Berrien

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Exclusive: Florida Fines Medicaid Providers For Using Tax Dollars To Cover Trans Treatments For Minors

By Megan Basham

[Read](#)



Georgia Teacher Fired For Reading Gender Identity Book To Fifth Graders

By Mairead Elordi

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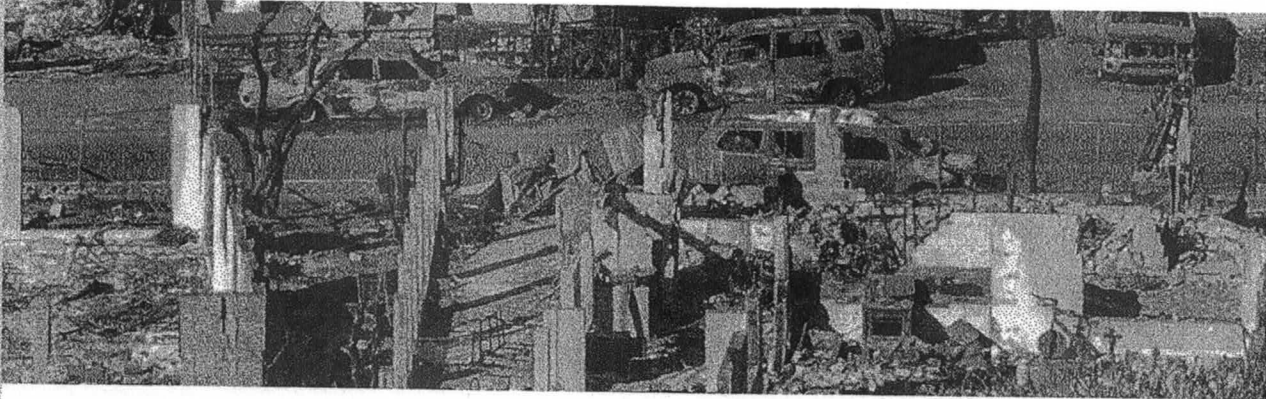


Why The Media Is So Eager To Smear 'The Blind Side' Family

By Matt Walsh

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Hawaii Utility Pursued Green Energy Goals While Fire Mitigation Projects Were Delayed

By Tim Pearce

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From: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us
Subject: Fwd: Book removal legislation concern
Date: August 18, 2023 at 4:58 PM
To: arpauly@gmail.com
Cc: Laura Weddle laura.weddle@boyle.kyschools.us



Ms. Pauly,

Thank you for reaching out to board members about your concern. Here is some information about the issues at hand. The administration met with legal counsel soon after SB 150 was passed to discuss the law's implementation and was advised by counsel of actions to take. We follow the law to the best of our ability. District librarians were **ONLY** asked to remove any materials that directly violated SB 150, but some books were removed that should not have been removed. We are in the process of reconsideration of these materials. If you feel that something was removed that shouldn't have been removed, I ask that you contact the building principal for reconsideration of that item. I appreciate your patience as we work through these issues and gain more clarity on this bill.

Sincerely,
Mark Wade

From: Allison Pauly <arpauly@gmail.com>
Date: August 17, 2023 at 10:04:47 AM EDT
To: laura.weddle@boyle.kyschools.us, steve.tamme@boyle.kyschools.us, jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us, jesse.johnson@boyle.kyschools.us, ruthann.elliott@boyle.kyschools.us
Subject: Book removal legislation concern

Dear Boyle County School Board,

Thank you for stepping up to serve on the Boyle School Board. I respectfully urge your Board to set written public policy on how your school libraries will respond to recent state legislation.

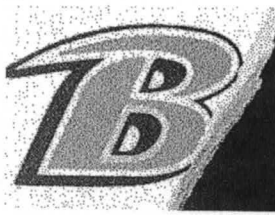
As a 1998 alumnus of Boyle County Schools, I write with alarm about the book removals happening across the district. I received an excellent education at Boyle County, from educators and librarians who were committed to giving us a well-rounded view of the world by showing us different perspectives and allowing us to think for ourselves.

The removal of these books is an attempt to erase peoples' realities as if they don't exist. Surely this is not an effective way of preparing students for entering the real world. There, they will soon be adults leading their own complicated lives and making their own decisions. A rich background of different perspectives and realities that might not be exactly like the one they come from is the best armament for this.

Graduates of my class include an international tax accountant, an attorney at the State Department, an architect with a partnership in her own firm, several physicians, social workers, and more. Surely this is proof that the education we received at Boyle County, uncensored, effectively prepared us to be good citizens and contribute to the world around us.

Respectfully, I request that the School Board reconsider the district's approach on this matter and continue its long commitment to providing high-quality education to Boyle County children.

Thank you,
Allison Pauly
RCHS Class of



MARK WADE
BOYLE COUNTY SCHOOLS
SUPERINTENDENT

O: 859-236-6634
E: mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us
A: 101 Citation Drive - Suite C
Danville, KY 40422

From: Allison Pauly arpauly@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Book removal legislation concern
Date: August 19, 2023 at 1:37 PM
To: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us

AP

Thank you for the response and I appreciate the further information.

On Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 4:58 PM Mark Wade <mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us> wrote:
Ms. Pauly,

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Date: August 17, 2023 at 10:04:47 AM EDT
To: laura.wedde@boyle.kyschools.us, steve.tamme@boyle.kyschools.us, jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us, jesse.johnson@boyle.kyschools.us, ruthann.elliott@boyle.kyschools.us
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Thank you,
Allison Pauly

of 1998

BCHS Class



MARK WADE

BOYLE COUNTY SCHOOLS

SUPERINTENDENT

O: 859-236-6634

E: mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us

A: 101 Citation Drive - Suite C

Danville, KY 40422

From: Katy Neyhouse kneyhous@gmail.com
Subject: Library Books and SB150
Date: August 16, 2023 at 7:09 PM
To: jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us

KN

Hi Jennifer!

Personal note: I hope Jenna had a GREAT first day of school! Junior?!

I think you're the representative for my area (Riverview subdivision) but if not, please let me know and I'll direct this email to the correct individual...

I recently learned that our school system has been removing books from the library in response to SB150. I would like to encourage the school board to reconsider this position.

I understand the Kentucky Department of Education has not provided firm guidance on the implementation of SB150 and, in not doing so, provides districts with some leeway to choose a course of action. There is no mention of books or libraries in SB150. Attached is legal analysis by Danville lawyer, Susan Weston, who has many years of experience in educational policy.

I believe that the position Boyle is taking comes from one of good intent and I recognize that this is a tough time to be in school leadership. My concern is that, in an effort to protect itself, the district has overstepped the bounds of what is actually required by SB150.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Katy

NewKyLawandLibraries (1).pdf



From: Jennifer Newby jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us
Subject: Fwd: Library Books and SB150
Date: August 16, 2023 at 7:48 PM
To: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us



----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Katy Neyhouse** <kneyhouse@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2023 at 7:09 PM
Subject: Library Books and SB150
To: <jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us>

Hi Jennifer!

Personal note: I hope Jenna had a GREAT first day of school! Junior?!

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Sincerely,
Katy

NewKyLawandLibraries (1).pdf



From: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us
Subject: Fwd: Library Books and SB150
Date: August 17, 2023 at 1:27 PM
To: Stephen Dexter dexter@danvillekylaw.com



Stephen,

Forwarding an example of the emails some of the board members are receiving about SB 150.

I think this is due to an employee who is angry about SB 150 and in response aggressively pulled more materials from circulation as an act of retaliation. I also have heard that she is out feeding this narrative to the community to cause problems.

I have prepared a canned response below and have two questions. Is my response appropriate or recommended? Thoughts about next steps with the employee? I have asked her to go through all of the "weeded" items to provide rationale for each item.

Thanks,
Mark

Draft:

Please feel free to use the reply for any SB 150 library curriculum concern.

Thank you so much for reaching out. Senate Bill 150 is a law that was passed on 3/29/23 and had some immediate implications for schools. The public did not vote on this bill, nor did schools, but schools have to implement it and were instructed to consult with their board attorney. Since the state has 171 public school districts, there are potentially 171 unique guidances for the bill. There is speculation that the legislators will reconsider and clarify the bill when they return to session. SB 150 specifically requires schools to disallow any instruction or presentation that has a goal or purpose of students studying or exploring gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation (SB 150). Librarians were **ONLY** asked to remove any materials that were a direct violation of SB 150 as outlined above.

If you have any questions about the weeding processes of librarians or concerns about the items removed, please first contact the librarian and principal of the school, as the librarians were given this task with specific guidance but may have pulled books from circulation for many other reasons including, but not limited to popularity, age, version, condition, etc.

Thanks,
Mark

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jennifer Newby** <jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us>
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2023 at 7:48 PM
Subject: Fwd: Library Books and SB150
To: Mark Wade <mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Katy Neyhouse** <kneyhouse@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2023 at 7:09 PM
Subject: Library Books and SB150
To: <jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us>

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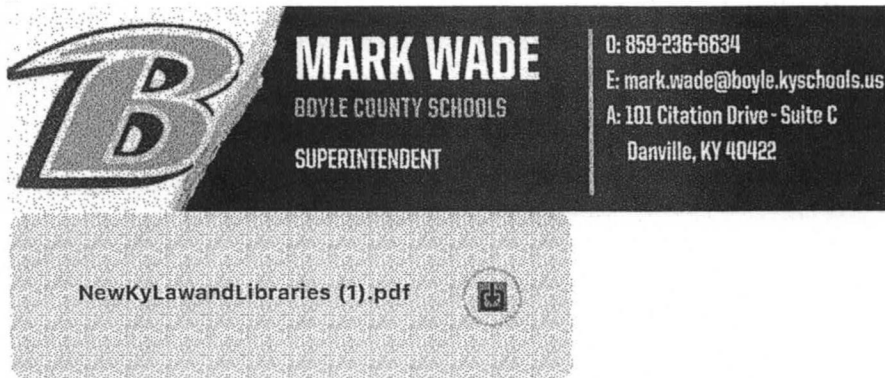
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I believe that the position Boyle is taking comes from one of good intent and I recognize that this is a tough time to be in school leadership. My concern is that, in an effort to protect itself, the district has overstepped the bounds of what is actually required by SB150.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Katy



From: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us
Subject: Fwd: Library Books and SB150
Date: August 18, 2023 at 5:05 PM
To: kneighthouse@gmail.com
Cc: Jennifer Newby jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us



Ms. Neyhouse,

Thank you for reaching out to board members about your concern. Here is some information about the issues at hand. The administration met with legal counsel soon after SB 150 was passed to discuss the law's implementation and was advised by counsel of actions to take. We follow the law to the best of our ability. District librarians were **ONLY** asked to remove any materials that directly violated SB 150, but some books were removed that should not have been removed. We are in the process of reconsideration of these materials. If you feel that something was removed that shouldn't have been removed, I ask that you contact the building principal for reconsideration of that item. I appreciate your patience as we work through these issues and gain more clarity on this bill.

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Mark Wade

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From: Katy Neyhouse <kneyhouse@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2023 at 7:09 PM
Subject: Library Books and SB150
To: <jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us>

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Katy

	MARK WADE	O: 859-236-6634
	BOYLE COUNTY SCHOOLS	E: mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us
	SUPERINTENDENT	A: 101 Citation Drive - Suite C
		Danville, KY 40422

NewKyLawandLibraries (1).pdf



From: Katy Neyhouse kneyhouse@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Library Books and SB150
Date: August 19, 2023 at 1:46 PM
To: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us



Thank you very much for your response, Mr. Wade. I appreciate you explaining the process to me and for letting me know that you all are in the process of reconsidering some of the materials that were pulled.

I hope you have a great school year!

Sincerely,
Katy

On Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 5:05 PM Mark Wade <mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us> wrote:
Ms. Neyhouse,

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Sincerely,
Mark Wade

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From: **Katy Neyhouse** <kneyhouse@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2023 at 7:09 PM
Subject: Library Books and SB150
To: <jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us>

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Katy



MARK WADE
BOYLE COUNTY SCHOOLS
SUPERINTENDENT

O: 859-236-6634
E: mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us
A: 101 Citation Drive - Suite C
Danville, KY 40422

From: MB Touchstone mbtouchstone@gmail.com
Subject: Reading is Essential
Date: August 15, 2023 at 12:54 PM
To: laura.weddel@boyle.kyschools.us

MT

Ms. Weddel,

Thank you so much for serving on Boyle County's Board of Education. I appreciate that in this day and age, the post can be challenging. I can also appreciate how difficult it must be for any board member to be asked to adopt policies that will be harmful to some students. As the parent of a transgendered adult and an active member of this community, I must ask that you keep our marginalized children in mind as you implement policies particularly regarding access to school and classroom libraries.

Since SB 150 does not call for removal of library books, I implore you not to do so. Just say "no". I am the mother of 3 and grandmother of 5; I know it is very difficult to get some children to read. I believe reading is the gateway to learning and we just don't know which book will trigger a lifelong love of reading for a child. Will it be the picture book depicting a child with 2 mommies or a book about the world's greatest sculptures? Let's not limit opportunities for our children to learn.

I am so proud of the quality of education that has been provided by the Boyle County schools. Let's not falter now. Please reconsider your decision to decommission books in our schools.

Warmest regards,
Mary Beth Touchstone

From: Laura Weddle laura.weddle@boyle.kyschools.us
Subject: Fwd: Reading is Essential
Date: August 17, 2023 at 7:00 PM
To: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us

LW

Laura Weddle

Begin forwarded message:

From: MB Touchstone <mbtouchstone@gmail.com>
Date: August 15, 2023 at 12:54:09 PM EDT
To: laura.weddle@boyle.kyschools.us
Subject: Reading is Essential

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Warmest regards,
Mary Beth Touchstone

From: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us
Subject: Fwd: Reading is Essential
Date: August 18, 2023 at 4:47 PM
To: mbtouchstone@gmail.com
Cc: Laura Weddle laura.weddle@boyle.kyschools.us

MW

Ms. Touchstone,

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Date: August 15, 2023 at 12:54:09 PM EDT
To: laura.weddle@boyle.kyschools.us
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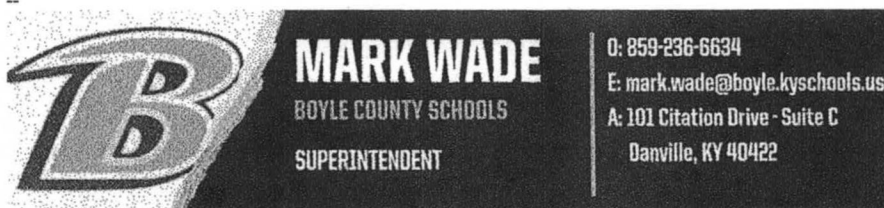
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Subject: RE: Reading is Essential
Date: August 20, 2023 at 1:03 PM
To: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us
Cc: Laura Weddle laura.weddle@boyle.kyschools.us

MT

Mr. Wade,

Thank you for your response. It is my understanding that SP 150 does not require school districts to decommission books. I am hopeful that you and the board will reconsider this decision. Given the ramifications of book banning in our community, perhaps a second look by different counsel is warranted.

Again, I appreciate the efforts that you and the board undertake daily to ensure a quality education for our children.

Warmest regards,
Mary Beth Touchstone

From: Mark Wade <mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us>
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 4:47 PM
To: mbtouchstone@gmail.com
Cc: Laura Weddle <laura.weddle@boyle.kyschools.us>
Subject: Fwd: Reading is Essential

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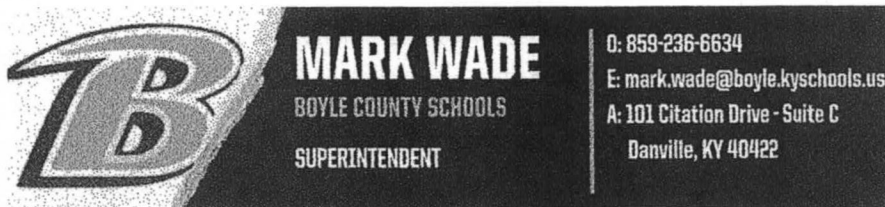
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Mary Beth Touchstone



From: Valery McMann mcmannvalery@gmail.com
Subject: SB 150
Date: August 16, 2023 at 5:37 PM
To: jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us



Hi Jennifer,

I hope Jenna had a good first day!

Thank you for leading our School Board. I know it is a difficult job, especially during these last few years.

I am asking that the School Board reconsider its stance that SB 150 requires that certain books be removed from the school libraries. I have read the law, and while I am not a lawyer, I do not see an explicit requirement that books be removed. It is heartbreaking to me that our excellent school district is taking this step. A strong education requires considering diverse opinions, especially at the high school level.

I am not aware of other school districts in the state removing books from the library unless there is a specific complaint and process followed about certain titles. Am I wrong about this?

Thanks again for your service!

Valery McMann, 859-691-0006

From: Jennifer Newby jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us
Subject: Fwd: SB 150
Date: August 16, 2023 at 7:47 PM
To: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us



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Thanks again for your service!

Valery McMann, 859-691-0006

From: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us
Subject: Fwd: SB 150
Date: August 18, 2023 at 5:07 PM
To: mcmannvalery@gmail.com
Cc: Jennifer Newby jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us



Mrs. McMann,

Thank you for reaching out to board members about your concern. Here is some information about the issues at hand. The administration met with legal counsel soon after SB 150 was passed to discuss the law's implementation and was advised by counsel of actions to take. We follow the law to the best of our ability. District librarians were **ONLY** asked to remove any materials that directly violated SB 150, but some books were removed that should not have been removed. We are in the process of reconsideration of these materials. If you feel that something was removed that shouldn't have been removed, I ask that you contact the building principal for reconsideration of that item. I appreciate your patience as we work through these issues and gain more clarity on this bill.

Sincerely,
Mark Wade

----- Forwarded message -----
From: **Valery McMann** <mcmannvalery@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2023 at 5:37 PM
Subject: SB 150
To: <jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us>

Hi Jennifer,

I hope Jenna had a good first day!

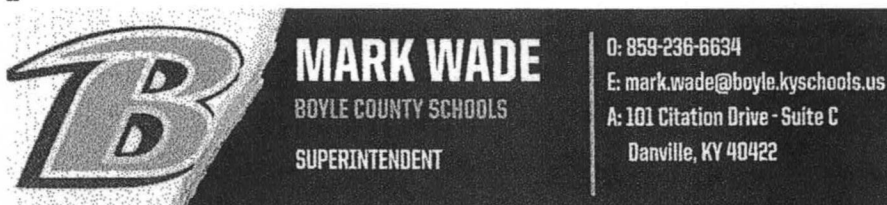
Thank you for leading our School Board. I know it is a difficult job, especially during these last few years.

I am asking that the School Board reconsider its stance that SB 150 requires that certain books be removed from the school libraries. I have read the law, and while I am not a lawyer, I do not see an explicit requirement that books be removed. It is heartbreaking to me that our excellent school district is taking this step. A strong education requires considering diverse opinions, especially at the high school level.

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Thanks again for your service!

Valery McMann, 859-691-0006



From: Valery McMann mcmannvalery@gmail.com
Subject: Re: SB 150
Date: August 20, 2023 at 9:14 PM
To: Mark Wade mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us
Cc: Jennifer Newby jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us



Hi Mark,

Thanks for your response. My understanding of the law is that parents can object to books or other materials on a case by case basis. So I would like to see all the books put back into the libraries and put the responsibility on parents who object to point out specific books.

I'm sure you remember that Ellie has encountered racial slurs and actions towards her several times. You and I agreed that the students were learning these feelings at home as the high school has policies against such actions. I don't want any student to experience what Ellie has based on their race, gender or sexual orientation. For the school system to have a policy that prohibits certain books that might help students learn things that they are not able to learn at home is deeply disturbing to me. I understand that the school system is attempting to follow a new law, but I would hope that we would interpret the law in the least harmful manner to our children.

Valery McMann

On Fri, Aug 18, 2023 at 5:07 PM Mark Wade <mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us> wrote:
Mrs. McMann,

Thank you for reaching out to board members about your concern. Here is some information about the issues at hand. The administration met with legal counsel soon after SB 150 was passed to discuss the law's implementation and was advised by counsel of actions to take. We follow the law to the best of our ability. District librarians were **ONLY** asked to remove any materials that directly violated SB 150, but some books were removed that should not have been removed. We are in the process of reconsideration of these materials. If you feel that something was removed that shouldn't have been removed, I ask that you contact the building principal for reconsideration of that item. I appreciate your patience as we work through these issues and gain more clarity on this bill.

Sincerely,
Mark Wade

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Valery McMann <mcmannvalery@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Aug 16, 2023 at 5:37 PM
Subject: SB 150
To: <jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us>

Hi Jennifer,

I hope Jenna had a good first day!


Thank you for leading our School Board. I know it is a difficult job, especially during these last few years.

I am asking that the School Board reconsider its stance that SB 150 requires that certain books be removed from the school libraries. I have read the law, and while I am not a lawyer, I do not see an explicit requirement that books be removed. It is heartbreaking to me that our excellent school district is taking this step. A strong education requires considering diverse opinions, especially at the high school level.

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Thanks again for your service!

Valery McMann, 859-691-0006



MARK WADE BOYLE COUNTY SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT	O: 859-236-6634 E: mark.wade@boyle.kyschools.us A: 101 Citation Drive - Suite C Danville, KY 40422
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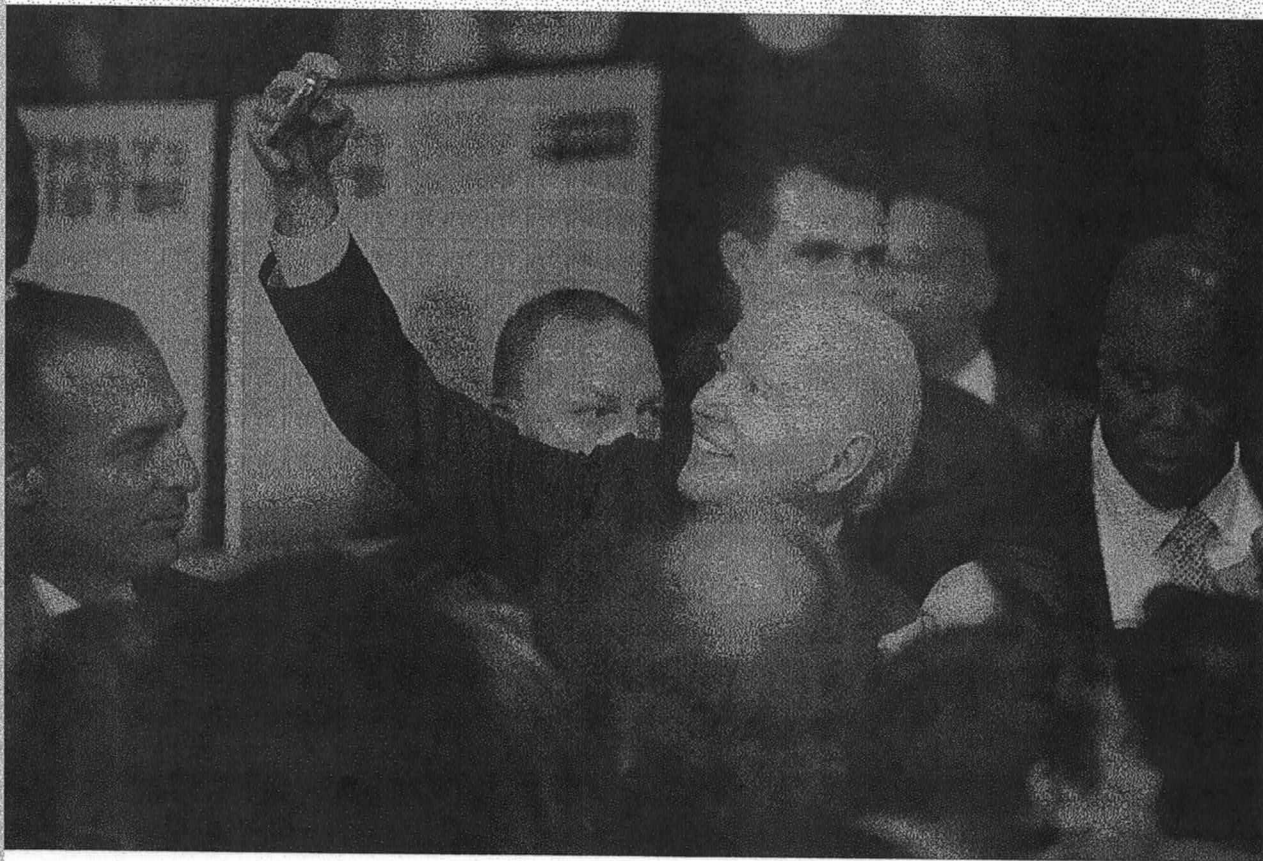
From: The Daily Wire daily@mailerdailywire.com
Subject: Afghanistan Gold Star Mom: I Wept, Wanted Comfort From Biden. He Suggested A Photo With Him Instead.
Date: August 22, 2023 at 5:12 AM
To: mwadeagr@gmail.com

TW

THE DAILY WIRE

Tuesday, August 22, 2023

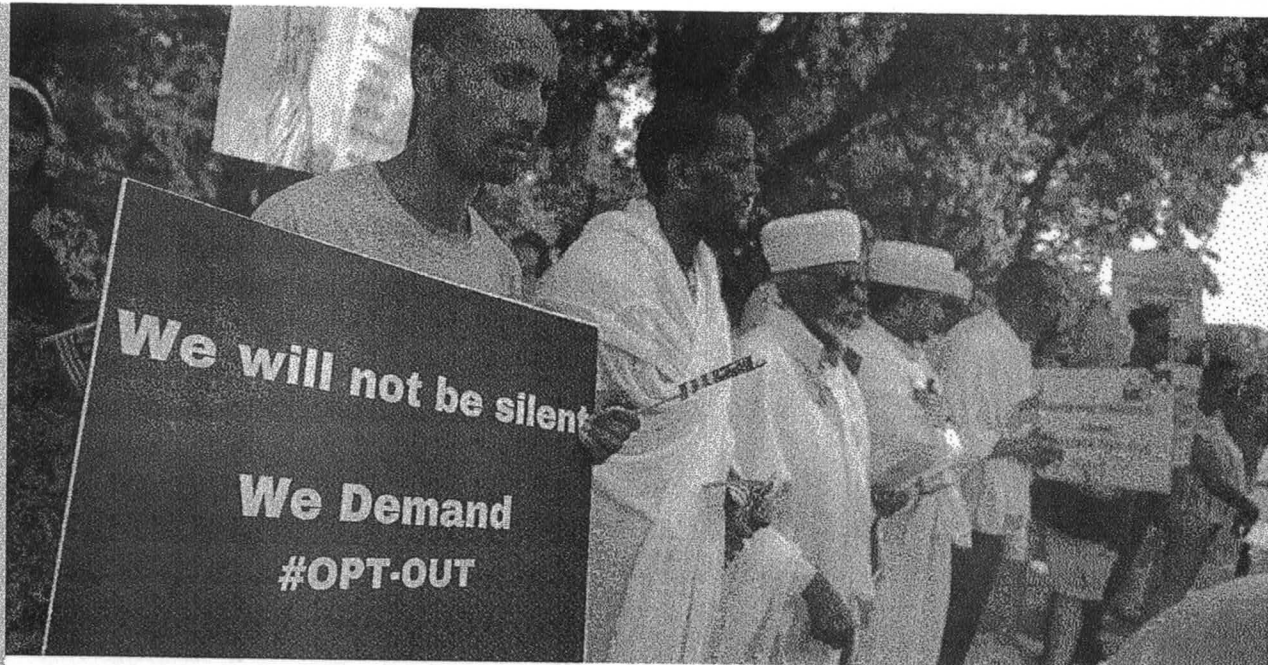
AD-FREE CONTENT FOR MEMBERS



**Afghanistan Gold Star Mom: I Wept, Wanted Comfort From
Biden. He Suggested A Photo With Him Instead.**

By Hank Berrien

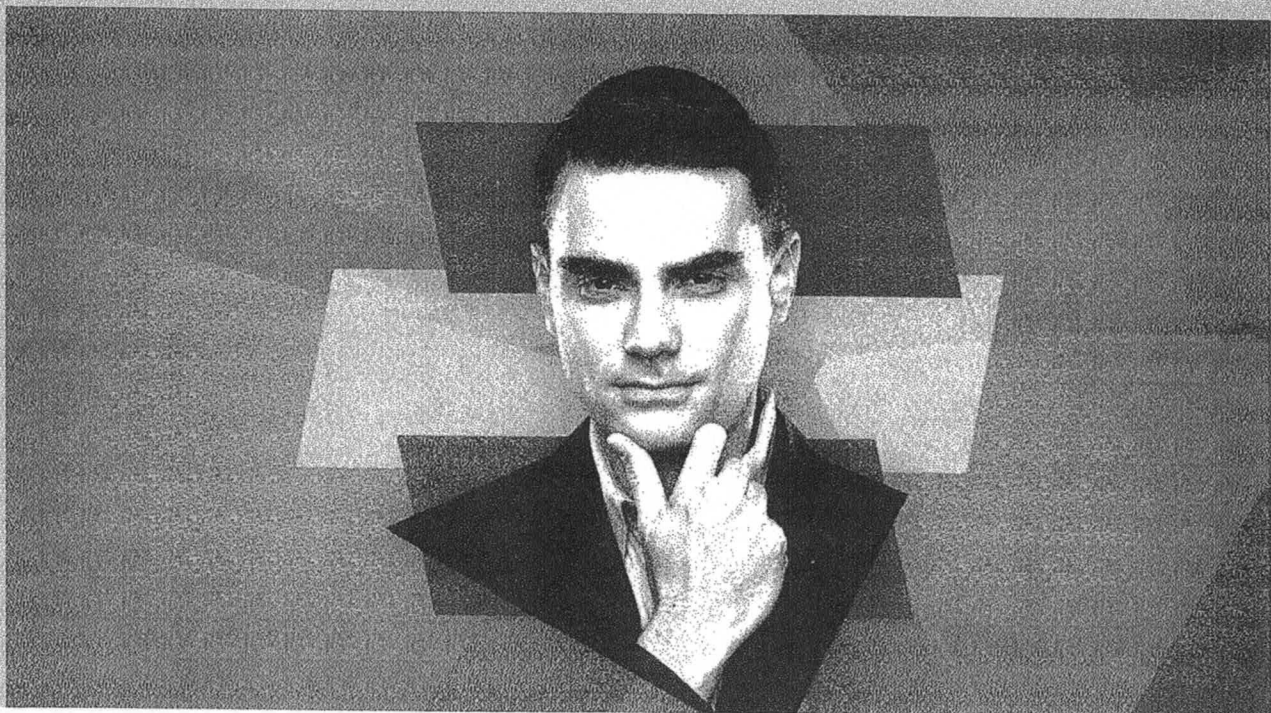
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Muslim Group, Principals Union Say School System Lied To Stop Parents From Opting Their Children Out Of Transgender Lessons

By Luke Rosiak

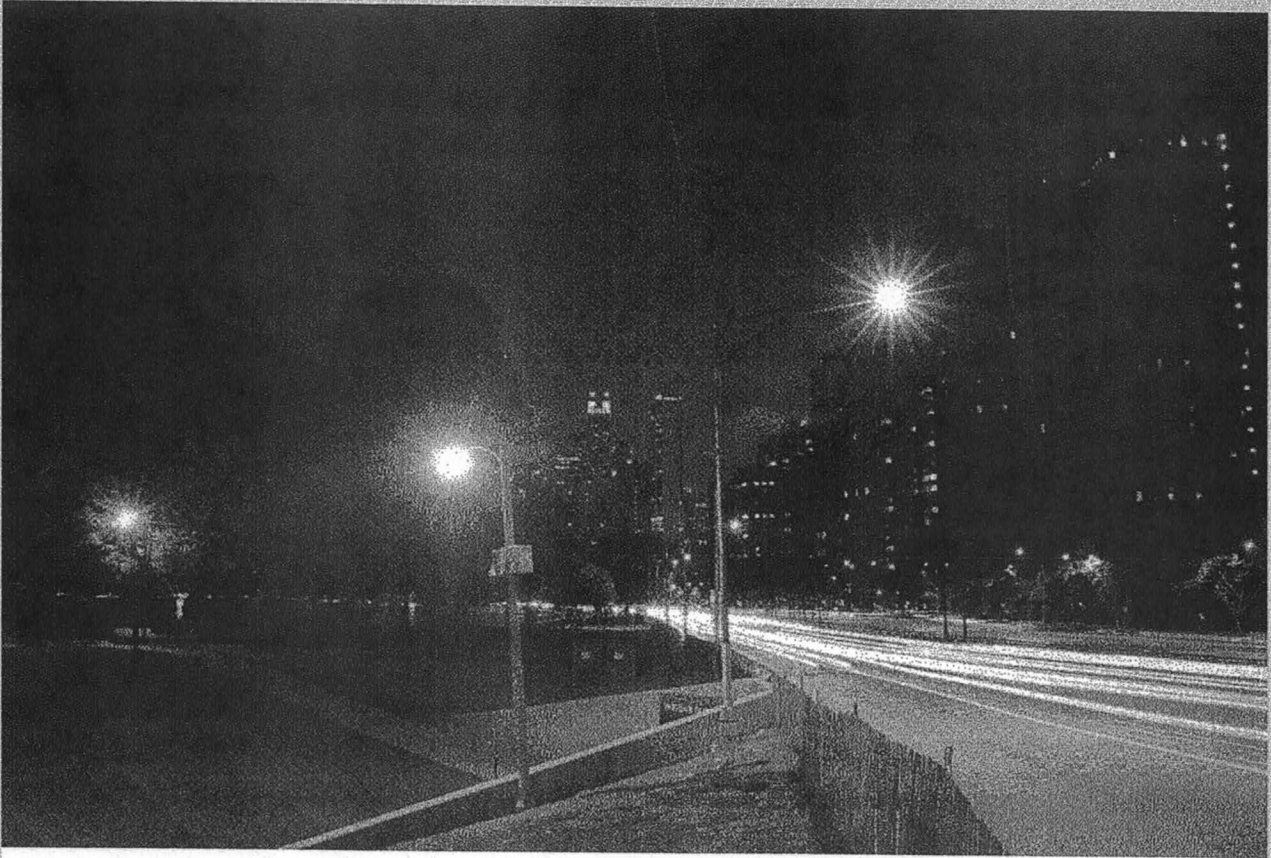
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Chicago Dem Promotes Solution For Insane Homicide Rate: Ask Gangs To Only Shoot At Night

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By Katie Jerkovich

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You are subscribed as mwadeagr@gmail.com.

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From: PragerU info@update.prageru.com
Subject: Why Girls Become Boys
Date: August 23, 2023 at 5:46 PM
To: mwadeagr@gmail.com

P



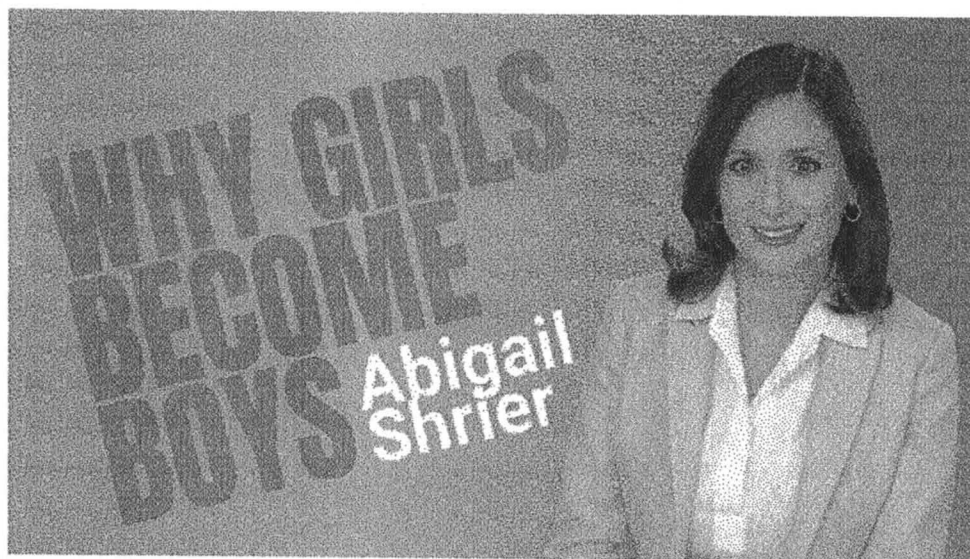
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5-Minute Video



Why Girls Become Boys

Ten years ago, it was unlikely that you knew someone who identified as transgender. Today, it's unlikely that you don't know someone who identifies as transgender. This is especially true of teenage girls. Abigail Shrier analyzes this disturbing trend and its implications.

around doing breathing exercises and smelling incense while some guy named Rua gropes them and whispers stuff like this:

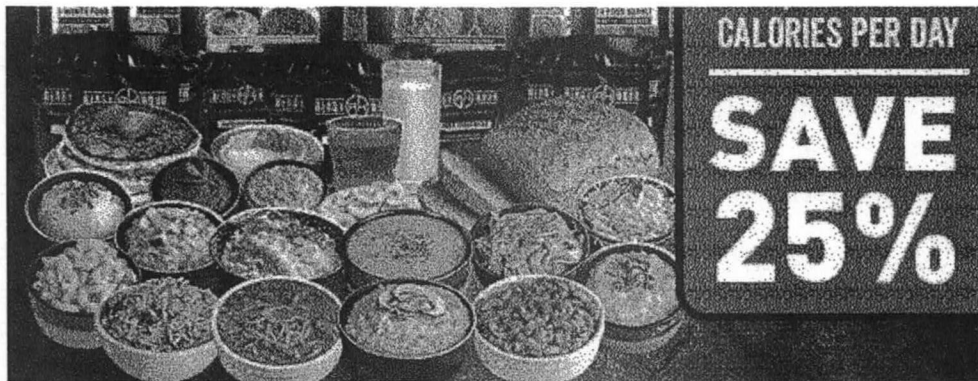
"I invite you to maybe bring up an intention. How you want to live in this world. How you want to love in this world. How you want to be in this world."

That's not an exaggeration. It's a direct quote from the article. The men's groups that the article profiles are not Bible studies or flag football leagues. They are new age, touchy-feely group hugs, where men learn how to get in touch with their feminine side. Later in the session, the men start screaming and sobbing and letting their emotions "flow freely" as they are "released into the darkness." The article goes on to quote a bunch of experts who all say the familiar things about how men are lonely and lost because of toxic masculinity that encourages us to be too stoic and reserved, and so forth. It laments the "cowboy mentality" that has allegedly contributed to the problem. The masculinity "expert" who coined that phrase is a woman named Niobe Way.

She of course quickly identifies the real victims in the story of male loneliness: women. She says: "Women end up being the therapist for their husband, and more are getting sick of it." Yes, God forbid wives have to listen to their husbands and offer them solace and comfort. They're "sick of it," says masculinity expert Niobe. This is not a conflicting message at all, is it? On one hand, men need to open up more, but on the other hand, if they do open up then they are putting an unfair burden on their wives, who are being asked to do too much emotional labor. Ok then. By the way, women, if you feel like you're sick of hearing about your husband's troubles, just keep in mind that he hears about your's about a thousand times more often.

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Meanwhile, a consultant named Mark Green says this:

"If a boy expresses too much emotion or too much need for connection, is too giddy, is too joyful, what we say to that boy is, 'What are you, a sissy? What are you, a girl? What are you, gay?' It's your job to dominate those around you, or you will lose status, and that will increase the number of individuals above you who can dish out dominance to you. And what we find is that in that system, in that structure, men are constantly in competition with each other and constantly driven by this sense of anxiety."

The problem with this theory is obvious. If a "cowboy mentality" and too much macho stoicism is what is driving the epidemic of lost and lonely men, then why is the problem getting worse over time? Everyone agrees it's worse now than ever before. I just went through some of the many statistics that prove this. There is a major problem. Men are in bad shape.

But if that is all getting worse, then how can we blame traditional notions of masculinity? There's no doubt that it is far less common for boys to be called "sissies" these days, or labeled "gay" as a pejorative, than it was 50 years ago or at any other time in human history. Indeed historically, the push for a man to be strong, dominant, and unemotional was much more pronounced than it is today. In fact, if a man didn't exhibit those traits, then he would die and his whole family would die. It's only in recent times that it's even been a possible option for men to be feminine, soft, and in touch with their feelings.

reasonable option for men to be feminine, soft, and in touch with their feelings. And it's also in recent times that men have lost all sense of themselves and their purpose and place in the world.

Speaking of the cowboy mentality, why didn't actual cowboys have these problems? If a cowboy mentality leads to despair and suicide, then we should find a whole hell of a lot of it if we look back at the latter half of the 19th century, which was the era of the cowboy. But we find no such thing. The Post's overall thesis can probably best be summarized in this sentence from the article: "American men's isolation stems in large part from a pervasive cultural belief, experts say: that men should be self-reliant and hide their emotions, especially from other men."

The absurdity of the premise could not be any clearer. Would anyone argue that the cultural belief that men should be self-reliant and hide their emotions is MORE pervasive today than it was half a century ago? Of course not. So, again: if that is the cause of the problem, why is the problem worse today? The trends are clearly going the other way. The correlation works entirely in the other direction. As society loses traditional notions of masculinity, suicides increase. This is undeniable. You can try to explain that correlation away all you want, but if you deny it or pretend it doesn't exist, you lose all credibility in this discussion.

Now, these "experts" are correct that men need fellowship, and men are missing it these days. But they even miss the point on that end too, because they encourage men to fellowship in the way that women fellowship. They tell men to sit around and talk about their feelings and so on — do some yoga, listen to soft music, and hold each other and cry. This is not the kind of fellowship men need or want. We can't expect corporate media's masculinity experts to understand this, because their masculinity experts are all effeminate. But any normal man can attest that men tend to bond while engaging in a shared activity — usually one that doesn't require a lot of talking. Sitting and watching the game. Fishing. Golfing. Playing pickup basketball, and so on.

I went out fishing with my brother-in-law a few weeks ago. When we came back my wife asked me what we talked about. I said we really didn't talk

about much of anything. Mostly we talked about fishing. She was shocked and confused, because women don't operate this way. But men and women are not the same. And you cannot hope to help men, or offer them any road map out of despair, if you don't start by acknowledging that basic fact.

When it comes to true male fellowship, the problem is that society has closed off many of the opportunities for this kind of fellowship. There are no men's lodges anymore, few bowling leagues and that sort of thing. Most men's spaces have either been shut down or feminized. It has been decided that men should socialize like women, and with women, or not at all. This is the message across the board. Society beckons to men and tells them that their salvation is to be women. And then we wonder why so many are killing themselves. We live ultimately in a matriarchal society with institutions either run by women or by effeminate men, who in their arrogance simply cannot accept the fact that men are different from women and have different needs and desires.

So this is the real problem. It's not that men are too focused on masculinity. It's that masculinity has been neutered, castrated, driven out of society, leaving men feeling lost and without purpose. Our notions of masculinity aren't too traditional. On the contrary, they aren't nearly traditional enough. The solution isn't that we sit around and talk about our feelings. It's that we do a whole lot less of that sort of thing, and get back to being men again. And if we can be men in a society that embraces and values our masculinity, suddenly this tide of male loneliness and despair will start to ebb. That is the solution. There is no other.

If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text 988 or chat at 988lifeline.org.



-Matt

Matt Walsh
Host, *The Matt Walsh Show*

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